SUBJECTS.

Dewan's reply.—The member's suggestion is noted.

71. *Reclamation in the Vembanad lake.*

Mr. N. Madhavan Karthavu (Member, Shertallai Taluk) proposed that the Government order prohibiting reclamation from the Vembanad lake be cancelled. He also said that his special grievance related to the prohibition of reclamation even in places which were beyond tidal action.

Mr. C. J. Kurien (Member, Kottayam Taluk) supported the member.

Dewan's reply.—The matter of the Vembanad lake is under correspondence between His Highness' Government and the Madras Government.

In regard to the non-disposal of applications for permission to reclaim the backwater in unobjectionable places, complained of by Mr. Madhavan Karthavu, Government cannot pass a general order on the member's bare statement. If the member sends up a list of the applications made and pending disposal, an enquiry will be made.

72. *Agricultural banks and model demonstration farms.*

Mr. M. Madhavan Tampi (Member, Kalkulam Taluk) urged the establishment of agricultural banks for helping the ryots, and model demonstration farms for instructing them in agriculture.

73. *Establishment of grain banks.*

Mr. K. G. Parameswara Menon (Member, Changanacheri Taluk) represented the necessity for establishing grain banks for assisting the small farmers and the petty landholders in the cultivation of their lands and towards the relief of agricultural indebtedness.

74. *Improved methods of agriculture.*

Mr. A. Harihara Iyer (Member, Chirayinkil Taluk) requested that improved methods of agriculture might be introduced. The existing methods were antiquated and should be replaced by new ones calculated to develop agriculture and the income derivable therefrom.

Mr. M. Madhavan Tampi (Member, Kalkulam Taluk) supported the previous member.

75. *Scientific officer for agriculture.*

Mr. F. W. LeFeuvre (Member, Central Travancore Planters' Association) brought forward the question of the appointment of a European scientific officer with some knowledge of mycology and entomology. This would be of great help to the European planters, but it would benefit far more the natives of Travancore, two-thirds of whom depended upon agriculture in one form or another for their means of livelihood. The officer would be able to give useful

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